

Toronto's Early Learning and Child Care System has a variety of programs to meet the diverse needs of families with children from newborn to 12 years.

System Transformation: Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement

- The Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system was initiated in March 2022 and funded by the Government of Canada with a five-year plan to reduce the cost of child care for children under the age of six to an average of \$10 per day by 2026 in licensed child care.
- In 2023, CWELCC participating programs reduced their child care fees by 52.75% to a minimum of \$12 per day

Licensed Child Care Centres (1,060 centres have a capacity to serve 80,035 full-time children)

Type of operator	Fee subsidy contract	Number of centres that opted into CWELCC	Infant spaces	Toddler spaces	Preschool spaces	Before / After Kindergarten spaces	School Age	Total spaces
City	Yes	39 (100%)	352	545	880	0	0	1,777
Non-profit	Yes	593 (99%)	2,075	5,224	11,433	12,955	0	31,687
Non-profit	No	60 (59%)	105	839	1,959	507	0	3,410
Commercial	Yes	71 (92%)	454	1,114	2,301	458	0	4,327
Commercial	No	161 (66%)	940	3,157	5,266	384	0	9,747
Total	N/A	924 (87%)	3,926	10,879	21,839	14,330	0	50,948

Type of operator	Fee subsidy contract	Total Number of centres	Infant spaces	Toddler spaces	Preschool spaces	Before / After Kindergarten spaces	School Age	Total spaces
City	Yes	39	352	545	880	0	0	1,777
Non-profit	Yes	600	2,078	5,229	11,438	13,163	20,287	52,195
Non-profit	No	101	121	1,182	2,941	588	533	5,365
Commercial	Yes	77	474	1,249	2,541	502	1,357	6,123
Commercial	No	243	1,080	4,046	7,862	834	753	14,575
Total	N/A	1,060	4,105	12,251	25,662	15,087	22,930	80,035

Licensed Home Child Care Agencies

- 25 licensed agencies operate in Toronto, 1 is City-operated; 24 of which are enrolled into CWELCC
- 10 agencies have a City of Toronto Fee Subsidy Agreement
- 2,468 Home Child Care enrollment as of December 2023

Before & After School Programs for Kindergarten and School-Age Children

- 558 licensed child care centres operate before & after school programs.
- 22 schools offer an Extended Day Program (EDP) operated by a school board and have a fee subsidy agreement

Child Care Fee Subsidy helps eligible families with all or part of the cost of licensed child care

- Based on current funding levels, 30,700 Child Care Fee Subsidies are available for eligible families.
- Yet, there are 48,105 low income children (newborn to 12 years) in Toronto based on the 2021 Census, Statistics Canada's Low-Income Measure after-tax and 331,335 total children within this age range.
- Currently, there are 14,183 children on the waiting list for a Child Care Fee Subsidy.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres

There are 53 organizations that have a City of Toronto Service Agreement to offer free programs for families with children (six years and younger). In total, they operate 253 locations across the city.

Every Child Belongs

The City provides funding to 19 organizations to provide Every Child Belongs services in licensed child care and EarlyON Child and Family Centres for children with extra support needs and their families.